

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. To have the audacity to subject your audiences to a one-sided view is so ludicrous, and goes against all that democracy means! The public TV stations aired a program just last night, on the history of the two candidates, without any editorial comment. It gave us a clear picture of the character of both men, so that we could form our own opinion of their qualities to lead this nation. If you are going to show anything it should be something of this nature to make it a fair fight for all. So, if you in charge have any conscience at all, please follow the example set forth by Public Television and be honorable, not throwing your powers out there so indiscriminately..!.

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